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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Matthew Baker et al.  
Application : 10/813,447 Confirmation No.: 4689  
No.  
Filed : March 29, 2004  
For : METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR MAKING ANASTOMOTIC  
CONNECTIONS LARGER THAN THE GRAFT CONDUIT  
Group Art Unit : 3731  
Examiner : Natalie R. Pous

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-  
1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Applicants hereby reply to the Office Action dated October 17, 2006, which did not address the merits of the above-identified patent application, but required restriction of the application to one of two inventions and required an election of species.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.